

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes an agreement between Obama for America and Romney for President (the “campaigns”) regarding the rules that will govern debates in which the campaigns participate in 2012. This agreement shall be binding upon the campaigns.

1. Number, Dates, Time, Locations, Topics

(a) Presidential Debates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday, October 3	University of Denver Denver, CO
Tuesday, October 16	Hofstra University Hempstead, NY
Monday, October 22	Lynn University Boca Raton, FL

(b) Vice Presidential Debate

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thursday, October 11	Centre College Danville, KY

(c) Each debate shall begin at 9 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

(d) The parties agree that they will not (1) issue any challenges for additional debates, (2) appear at any other debate or adversarial forums except as agreed to by the parties, or (3) accept any television or radio air time offers that involve a debate format or otherwise involve the simultaneous appearance of more than one candidate.

(e) The topic of the October 3 (First Presidential) debate shall be domestic policy. The topic of the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate shall be foreign policy. The October 11 (Vice Presidential) debate and the October 16 (Second Presidential) debate shall not be limited by topic

and shall include a balance of questions on topics including foreign policy and national security, on the one hand, and domestic and economic policy on the other.

2. Sponsorship

The two campaigns will participate in four debates sponsored by the Commission on Presidential Debates (the "Commission"). The Campaigns agree that the Commission shall sponsor the debates, subject to its expression of a willingness to employ the provisions of this agreement in conducting these debates. In the event the Commission does not so agree, the two campaigns jointly reserve the right to determine whether an alternate sponsor is preferable. The parties agree that the Commission's Nonpartisan Candidate Selection Criteria for 2012 General Election Debate participation shall apply in determining the candidates to be invited to participate in these debates.

3. Participants

If one or more candidates from campaigns other than the two (2) signatories are invited to participate pursuant to those Selection Criteria, those candidates shall be included in the debates, if those candidates accept the terms of this agreement. Any modifications to this agreement must be agreed upon by each of the signatories to this agreement as well as all other candidates selected to join the debate.

4. Moderator

(a) Each debate will have a single moderator;

(b) The parties have accepted the Commission's recommendations of the below-listed moderators. The Commission shall provide each moderator with a copy of this agreement and shall use its best efforts to ensure that the moderators implement the terms of this agreement.

(i) Jim Lehrer for the First Presidential debate, October 3, 2012 at the University of Denver.

(ii) Candy Crowley for the Second Presidential debate, October 16, 2012 at

Hofstra University.

(iii) Bob Schieffer for the Third Presidential debate, October 22, 2012 at Lynn University.

(iv) Martha Raddatz for the Vice Presidential debate, October 11, 2012 at Centre College.

5. Rules Applicable to All Debates

The following rules shall apply to each of the four debates:

(a) Each debate shall last for ninety (90) minutes, with the time commencing from the start of the moderator's opening to the conclusion of the moderator's closing.

(b) For each debate, there shall be no opening statements. There shall be a 2 minute closing statements in the First debate, a 90 second closing in the Vice President debate, and for the Third Presidential debate, the campaigns will resolve the choice between a 90 second and a 2 minute closing by coin toss. There will be no closing statement in the Second Presidential Town Hall debate. The order of these closing statements shall be determined by coin toss.

(c) No props, notes, charts, diagrams, or other writings or other tangible things may be brought into the debate by any candidate, including portable electronic devices, and prior to the beginning of the debate, the Commission will verify as appropriate that the candidates have complied with this subsection. No candidate may reference or cite any specific individual sitting in a debate audience (other than family members) at any time during a debate. If a candidate references or cites any specific individual(s) in a debate audience, or if a candidate uses a prop, note, or other writing or other tangible thing during a debate, the moderator must interrupt and explain that reference or citation to the specific individual(s) or the use of the prop, note, or other writing or thing violates the debate rules agreed to by that candidate.

(d) Notwithstanding subparagraph 5(c), the candidates may take notes during the debate on the size, color, and type of blank paper each prefers and using the type of pen or pencil that each prefers. The staff of the candidate will place such paper, pens, and pencils on the podium, table, or other structure to be used by the candidate in that debate.

(e) The candidates may not ask each other direct questions during any of the four debates.

(f) The order of questioning shall be determined as follows: The Commission will conduct a coin toss at least seventy-two (72) hours before the First Presidential debate (October 3). At that time, the winner of the coin toss shall have the option of choosing, for the October 3 debate, whether to take the first or second question. At that time, the loser of the coin toss will have the choice of question order for the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate. For the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate, there shall be a separate coin toss, with the winner choosing whether to take the first or second question. The Commission shall set a time at least seventy-two (72) hours before the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate at which the candidates shall make their choices for that debate.

(g) President Obama shall be addressed by the moderator as “Mr. President” or “President Obama”. Governor Romney shall be addressed by the moderator as “Governor” or “Governor Romney”.

(h) The candidates shall not address each other with proposed pledges.

(i) In each debate, the moderator shall:

(i) Open and close the debate and enforce all time limits. Where a candidate exceeds the permitted time for comment, the moderator shall interrupt and remind both the candidate and the audience of the expiration of the time limit and call upon such candidate to observe the strict time limits that have been agreed upon herein.

(ii) Use his or her best efforts to ensure that the questions are reasonably well

balanced in all debates and within the designated subject matter areas of the October 3 (First Presidential) debate and October 22 (Third Presidential) debate in terms of addressing a wide range of issues of major public interest facing the United States and the world.

(iii) Vary the topics on which he or she questions the candidates and ensure that the topics of the questions are fairly apportioned between the candidates, except that in the First Debate, the moderator shall apportion the questions within the broad topic areas announced by the Commission for that debate.

(iv) Use best efforts to ensure that the two candidates speak for approximately equal amounts of time during the course of each debate and within each segment of each debate.

(v) Use any reasonable method to ensure that the agreed-upon format is followed by the candidates and the audience.

(vi) Alternate between the candidates the one responding first to questions.

(j) At no debate shall the moderator ask the candidates for a "show of hands" or similar calls for response.

6. Additional Rules Applicable to the October 3 and October 22 Debates

For the October 3 (First Presidential) debate, the candidates will appear at podiums. For the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate, the candidates shall be seated jointly at a table, in a style similar to previous presidential debates employing that format. The October 3 (First Presidential) debate and October 22 (Third Presidential) debate shall be governed by the rules set forth in section 5 and the following additional rules:

(a) There shall be no audience participation in the October 3 (First Presidential) debate and October 22 (Third Presidential) debate. Except as provided by the agreed upon rules of

the October 16 town hall debate, members of the debate audience will be instructed by the moderator before the debate goes on the air and by the moderator after the debate goes on the air not to applaud, speak, or otherwise participate in the debate by any means other than by silent observation, as further provided and enforced under section 9(a)(viii). The moderator shall direct the first question to the candidate determined by the procedure set forth in subparagraph 5(f) of section 5.

(b) The October 3 First Presidential debate and the October 22 Third Presidential debate shall be broken into six, 15-minute segments. Each segment will begin with the moderator introducing a topic and giving each candidate 2 minutes to comment on the topic. After these initial answers, the moderator will facilitate an open discussion of the topic for the remaining approximately 8 minutes and 45 seconds, ensuring that both candidates receive an equal amount of time to comment. The candidates will reverse the order of response to the next and subsequent questions.

(c) At no time during the October 3 First Presidential debate shall either candidate move from his designated area behind his respective podium. At no time during the October 22 Third Presidential debate shall either candidate move from his designated area seated behind the table.

7. Additional Rules Applicable to the October 16 Debate

The October 16 (Second Presidential) debate will be conducted in an audience participation ("Town Hall") format. This debate shall be governed by the rules set forth in section 5 (as applicable), and the staging of the debate, including the audience size, will be determined by the Commissioner producer in consultation with, and subject in its details to, the agreement of both candidates, to achieve consistency with the traditional Town Hall format. In addition, there shall be the following additional rules:

(a) There shall be no audience participation in the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate other than as described below. Other than for an audience member asking a question as permitted by this section, at the start of the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate and in the event of and in each instance whereby an audience member(s) attempts to participate in the debate by any means thereafter, the moderator shall instruct the audience to refrain from any participation in the debate as described in section 9(a) (viii) below. The moderator shall facilitate audience members in asking questions to each of the candidates, beginning with the candidate determined by the procedure set forth in subparagraph 5(f). The answer segments will be structured as follows: A question is asked of Candidate A. That candidate will respond to the question for up to 2 minutes. Candidate B will then have 2 minutes to respond. Following those initial answers, the moderator will invite the candidates to respond to the previous answers, beginning with Candidate A, for a total of 2 minutes, ensuring that both candidates receive an equal amount of time to comment. In managing the two-minute comment periods, the moderator will not rephrase the question or open a new topic. The candidates will reverse the order of responses to the next question.

(b) After completion of the discussion of the first question, the moderator shall call upon another audience member to direct a question to the candidate who did not respond initially to the first question, and follow the procedure outlined in paragraph 7(a) above. Thereafter, the moderator shall follow the procedures in this paragraph by calling upon another audience member to ask a question of the first candidate and shall continue to alternate the candidate who first answers each successive question.

(c) With respect to all questions:

(i) The moderator shall select the questioners, but she may not "coach" the questioners.

(ii) As set forth in section 7(c), questioners shall not be allowed to make statements, speeches, or comments. They must ask their question as originally submitted and selected by the moderator and make no other comments.

(iv) The moderator will not ask follow-up questions or comment on either the questions asked by the audience or the answers of the candidates during the debate or otherwise intervene in the debate except to acknowledge the questioners from the audience or enforce the time limits, and invite candidate comments during the 2 minute response period.

(v) The two campaigns shall agree upon a method for selection of the audience for the town hall debate pursuant to subparagraph (f) below.

(d) The audience members shall not ask follow-up questions or otherwise participate in the extended discussion, and the audience member's microphone shall be turned off after he or she completes asking the questions.

(e) Prior to the start of the debate, audience members will be asked to submit their questions in writing to the moderator. No third party, including the Commission and the campaigns, shall be permitted to see the questions. The moderator shall approve all questions to be posed by the audience members to the candidates. The moderator shall ensure that the audience members pose to the candidates a balance of questions on foreign policy and national security, on the one hand, and domestic and economic policy on the other. The moderator will further review the questions and eliminate any questions that the moderator deems inappropriate. At least seven (7) days before the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate, the moderator shall develop, and describe to the campaigns, a method for selecting questions at random while assuring that questions are reasonably well balanced in terms of addressing a wide range of issues of major public interest facing the United States and the world. Each question selected will be asked by the audience member

submitting that question. If any audience member poses a question or makes a statement that is in any material way different than the question that the audience member earlier submitted to the moderator for review, the moderator will cut-off the questioner and advise the audience that such non-reviewed questions are not permitted. Moreover, the Commission shall take appropriate steps to cut-off the microphone of any such audience member who attempts to pose any question or statement different than that previously posed to the moderator for review. The moderator will inform the audience of this provision prior to the start of the debate.

(f) Subject to the consultation and agreement procedure affecting staging, as described in this section, the debate will take place before a live participating audience of persons who shall be seated and who describe themselves as likely voters. These participants will be selected by the Gallup Organization ("Gallup"), using a methodology approved in writing by the campaigns. Gallup shall have responsibility for selecting the nationally demographically representative group of voters. At least fourteen (14) days prior to October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate, Gallup shall provide a comprehensive briefing on the selection methodology to the campaigns, and both campaigns shall approve the methodology. Either campaign may raise objections on the methodology to Gallup and to the Commission within twenty-four (24) hours of the briefing, and Gallup shall revise the methodology accordingly.

(g) Participants selected shall not be contacted directly or indirectly by the campaigns before the debate. The Commission shall not contact the participants before the debate other than for logistical purposes.

8. Additional Rules Applicable to October 11 (Vice Presidential) Debate

For the debate between the two candidates for Vice-President, the candidates will be seated at a table following the same basic rules and staging provisions (except as otherwise noted here) for the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate. There shall be no audience participation of any kind.

The stage position for each candidate shall be determined by a flip of the coin, witnessed by the campaigns' representatives, no less than 72 hours before the start of the debate.

(a) The moderator shall ask questions of each candidate in alternating order with the recipient of the first question determined by a flip of the coin, witnessed by the campaigns' representatives, no less than 72 hours before the start of the debate. When asked a question, the first candidate will have two minutes in which to respond, the second candidate will have two minutes to comment on the response, and then the moderator will lead a 4 minute 15 second minute discussion with the time to be evenly divided between the candidates.

(b) There will be no opening statements. Each candidate shall have two minutes in which to make a closing statement with the order of those statements determined by a flip of the coin, witnessed by the campaigns' representatives, no less than 72 hours before the start of the debate. The moderator shall take steps to ensure that each candidate has the full two minutes provided in this paragraph, and the Commission shall take steps to ensure that the closing statements are included in the nationwide broadcast, notwithstanding any other provision in this agreement.

(c) If there are any discrepancies between this paragraph and any other provision of this agreement, the provisions of this paragraph shall govern. Any issues not anticipated by this paragraph or the agreement shall be resolved at the debate site by the campaigns' representatives and, failing a resolution, by a coin flip.

(d) Each campaign will advise the moderator of the choice of address that it would prefer.

9. Staging

(a) The following rules apply to each of the four debates:

(i) All staging arrangements for the debates not specifically addressed in this agreement shall be jointly addressed and agreed to by representatives of the two

campaigns. In this regard, the Commission staff -- including the broadcast producer -
- shall meet at least once daily and simultaneously with a representative of each
campaign, and the Commission shall provide reasonable daily access to the stage and
debate site, on an equal basis but not simultaneously, for each campaign.

(ii) The Commission will conduct a coin toss at least seventy-two hours before
the October 3 (First Presidential) debate. At that time, the winner of the coin toss
shall have the option of choosing stage position for the October 3 debate; the loser
of the coin toss will have first-choice of stage position for the October 22 (Third
Presidential) debate. The loser of the coin toss or his representative shall
communicate his stage position choice by email to the Commission and to the other
campaign at least seventy-two (72) hours before the October 22 (Third Presidential)
debate. The stage position for the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall)
debate will be determined by a coin toss to take place at least seventy-two (72) hours
before the debate. The stage position for the October 11 (Vice Presidential) debate
will be determined by a separate coin toss to take place at least seventy-two (72)
hours before that debate.

(iii) For the October 3 (First Presidential) debate, October 11 (Vice Presidential),
October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate, and October 22 (Third
Presidential) debate, the candidates shall enter the stage simultaneously, from
opposite ends of the stage, upon a verbal cue by the moderator after the program
goes on the air, proceed to center stage, shake hands, and proceed directly to their
positions.

(iv) Except as provided in subparagraph (d) (viii) of this paragraph 9, TV cameras
will be locked into place during all debates. They may, however, tilt or rotate as

needed to frame the candidate or moderator.

(v) Except as provided in subparagraph 9(d) (viii), TV coverage during the question and answer period shall be limited to shots of the candidates or moderator, and in no case shall any television shots be taken of any member of the audience (including candidates' family members) from the time the first question is asked until the conclusion of the closing statements, if any. When a candidate is speaking, either in answering a question or making his closing statement, TV coverage will be limited to the best of the Commission's ability to the candidate speaking. To the best of the Commission's abilities, there will be no TV cut-aways to any candidate who is not responding to a question while another candidate is answering a question or to a candidate who is not giving a closing statement while another candidate is doing so.

(vi) The camera located at the rear of the stage shall be used only to take shots of the moderator and will not show the notes taken by the candidates.

(vii) For each debate, each candidate shall have camera-mounted, timing lights corresponding to the timing system described in section 9(b) (vi) below positioned in his or her line of sight. The candidates will, have a countdown clock for all the 2-minute responses and any closing statements.

(viii) All members of the debate audience will be instructed by the moderator before the debate goes on the air and by the moderator after the debate goes on the air not to applaud, speak, or otherwise participate in the debate by any means other than by silent observation, except as provided by the agreed upon rules of the October 16 town hall debate. The moderator shall also state that, should an audience member fail to comply with this requirement, he or she will be subject to removal from the audience and from the facility. In the event of and in each instance

whereby an audience member(s) violates this requirement, the moderator shall restate the instruction for the entire audience and shall also use his or her best efforts to enforce this provision, as appropriate, against the specific audience members failing to comply with the instructions pursuant to this subparagraph.

(ix) The Commission shall use best efforts to maintain an appropriate temperature as agreed to by the campaigns.

(x) Each candidate shall be permitted to have a complete, private production and technical briefing and walk-through ("Briefing") at the location of the debate on the day of the debate. The order of the Briefing shall be determined by agreement or, failing candidate agreement, a coin flip. Each candidate will have a maximum of one (1) hour for this Briefing. Production lock-down will not occur for any candidate unless that candidate has had his or her Briefing. There will be no filming, taping, photography, or recording of any kind (except by that candidate's personal photographer) allowed during the candidates' Briefing. No media, other than as stated herein, will be allowed into the auditorium where the debate will take place during a candidate's Briefing. All persons, including but not limited to the media, other candidates and their representatives, and the employees or agents of the Commission, other than those necessary to conduct the Briefing, shall vacate the debate site while a candidate has his or her Briefing. The Commission will provide to each candidate's representatives a written statement and plan which describes the measures to be taken by the Commission to ensure the complete privacy of all briefings.

(xi) The color and style of the backdrop will be recommended by the Commission and agreed to by representatives of the campaigns. The Commission

shall make its recommendation known to the campaigns at least seventy-two (72) hours before each debate. The backdrops behind each candidate shall be identical.

(xii) The set will be completed and lit no later than 3 p.m. at the debate site on the day before the debate will occur.

(xiii) Each candidate may use his or her own makeup person, and adequate facilities shall be provided by the Commission at the debate site for makeup.

(xiv) In addition to Secret Service personnel and other provision for official support as required by law and standard protocols for the President, each candidate will be permitted to have one (2) pre-designated staff member in the wings or in the immediate backstage area during the debate at a location to be mutually agreed upon by representatives of the campaigns at each site. All other staff must vacate the wings or immediate backstage areas no later than five (5) minutes before the debate commences. A PL phone line will be provided between each candidate's staff work area and the broadcast producer.

(xv) Each candidate shall be allowed to have one (1) professional still photographer present on the stage before the debate begins and in the wings during the debate as desired and on the stage immediately upon the conclusion of the debate. No photos shall be taken from the wings by these photographers during the debate. Photos taken by these photographers may be distributed to the press as determined by each candidate. In addition, the press pool accompanying each candidate shall be included in a pool to be formed by the Commission for pre- and post-debate photography from the buffer zone.

(b) In addition to the rules in subparagraph (a), the following rules apply to the

October 3 (First Presidential) debate:

- (i) The Commission shall construct the podiums and each shall be identical to view from the audience side. The podiums shall measure fifty (50) inches from the stage floor to the outside top of the podium facing the audience and shall measure forty-eight (48) inches from the stage floor to the top of the inside podium writing surface facing the respective candidates, and, otherwise shall be constructed in the style and specifications recommended by the Commission, shown in Attachment A, and approved by the campaigns. There shall be no writings or markings of any kind on the fronts of the podiums. No candidate shall be permitted to use risers or any other device to create an impression of elevated height and no candidate shall be permitted to use chairs, stools, or other seating devices during the debate.
- (ii) Each podium shall have installed a fixed hardwired microphone, and an identical microphone to be used as backup per industry standards, and approved by the campaigns.
- (iii) The podiums will be equally canted toward the center of the stage at a degree to be determined by the Commission's producer and approved by the campaigns. The podiums shall be 10' apart; such distance shall be measured from the left-right center of a podium to the left-right center of the other podium.
- (iv) The moderator will be seated at a table so as to be positioned in front, between, and equidistant from the candidates, and between the cameras to which the candidates direct their answers.
- (v) At least ten days before each debate, the Commission shall submit for joint approval of the campaigns a diagram for camera placement, set design, and room configuration to include the audience seating breakdown.
- (vi) Time cues in the form of colored lights will be given to the candidates and

the moderator when there are thirty (30) seconds remaining, fifteen (15) seconds remaining, and five (5) seconds remaining, respectively for the two (2) minute and other timed answers. Pursuant to Section 5(j) (i), the moderators shall enforce the strict time limits described in this agreement. Each candidate will have a countdown clock which will show the seconds left in any two minute answer or closing statement.

(c) In addition to the rules in subparagraph (a), the following rules apply to the October

16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate:

(i) The candidates shall be seated on director chairs (with backs) before the audience, which shall be seated in approximately a horseshoe arrangement as symmetrically as possible around the candidates. Consistent with the terms of Section 7, the precise staging arrangements will be determined by the Commission's producer subject to the approval of representatives of both campaigns.

(ii) The chairs shall be identical and have backs and a footrest and shall be approved by the candidates' representatives.

(iii) Each candidate shall have a place to put a glass of water and paper and pens or pencils for taking notes (in accordance with section (d)) of sufficient height to allow note taking while sitting on the chair, and which shall be designed by the Commission, subject to the approval of representatives of both campaigns.

(iv) Each candidate may move about in a pre-designated area, as proposed by the Commission and approved by each campaign, and may not leave that area while the debate is underway. The pre-designated areas of the candidates may not overlap.

(v) Each candidate shall use a wireless hand held microphone (with appropriate back-up) to allow him to move about and to face different directions while responding to

questions from the audience.

(vi) At least ten days before each debate, the Commission shall submit for approval by the campaigns a diagram for camera placement, set design, and room configuration to include the audience seating breakdown.

(vii) At least seven (7) days before the October 16 (Second Presidential-Town Hall) debate, the Commission shall recommend a system of time cues subject to approval by both campaigns and consistent with the cues described in section 9(b)(vi).

(viii) Notwithstanding sections 9 (a)(iv) and (v), a roving camera may be used for shots of an audience member only during the time that the audience member is asking a question.

(ix) Prior to the start of the debate, neither the moderator nor any other person shall engage in a "warm up" session with the audience by engaging in a question or answer session or by delivering preliminary remarks. The moderator shall inform the audience of the rules of the debate, including the instruction that any audience member chosen to ask a question must ask the question he or she submitted, as described in Sections 7 (a) and (e).

(d) In addition to the rules in subparagraph (a), the following rules apply to the October 11 (Vice-Presidential) debate and the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate:

(i) The candidates shall be seated at a table similar to the design used in prior Presidential and Vice Presidential debates with the moderator facing the candidates with his back to the audience and the candidates appearing on either side of the moderator. The precise design of the table and staging arrangements will be determined by the Commission subject to the approval of representatives of both campaigns. The Commission will submit a design for the table to the campaigns as soon as practicable but in no event later than 10 days before the Vice Presidential debate. The same table and design will be used for the October 22 Third

Presidential Debate.

- (ii) The chairs shall be swivel chairs that can be locked in place, shall be identical and shall be approved by the candidates' representatives.
- (iii) Each candidate shall have a place to put a glass of water and paper and pens or pencils for taking notes (in accordance with section (d)).
- (iv) Each candidate and the moderator shall have a wireless lapel microphone, and an identical microphone to be used as a backup.
- (v) At least ten days before both debates, the Commission shall submit for approval by the campaigns a diagram for camera placement, set design, and room configuration to include the audience seating breakdown.
- (vi) At least seven (7) days before the October 11 (Vice Presidential debate) and the October 22 (Third Presidential) debate, the Commission shall recommend a system of time cues subject to approval by both campaigns and consistent with the cues described in section 9(b)(vi).
- (vii) The candidates shall remain seated throughout these two debates.

10. Ticket Distribution and Seating Arrangements

(a) The Commission shall be responsible for printing and ensuring security of all tickets to all debates. Each campaign shall be entitled to receive directly from the Commission one-third of the available tickets (excluding those allocated to the participating audience in the October 16 debate), with the remaining one-third going to the Commission.

(b) In the October 16 Town Hall debate, the participating audience shall be separated from any nonparticipating audience, and steps shall be taken to ensure that the participating audience is admitted to the debate site without contact with the campaigns, the media, or the nonparticipating audience.

(c) The Commission shall allocate tickets to the campaigns in such a manner as to ensure that supporters of each candidate do not sit in a block and are interspersed with supporters for the other candidate and interspersed with tickets distributed by the Commission. For the October 3 (First Presidential) debate, October 11 (Vice Presidential) debate, and October 22 (Third Presidential) debate, the family members of each candidate shall be seated in the front row, diagonally across from the candidate directly in his line of sight while seated or standing at the podium. For the October 16 (Second Presidential) debate, the family members of each candidate shall be seated as mutually agreed by representatives of the campaigns.

(d) Any media seated in the auditorium shall be accommodated only in the last two (2) rows of the auditorium farthest from the stage. Two (2) still photo stands may be positioned near either side of the television camera stands located in the audience. (A media center with all necessary feeds will be otherwise available.)

(e) Tickets will be delivered by the Commission to each candidate's designated representative by 12:00 noon on the day preceding each debate. The Commission will invite from its allotment (two (2) tickets each) an agreed upon list of officeholders such as the U.S. Senate and House Majority and Minority Leaders, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State holding the debate and in the case of the October 16 (Second Presidential debate) that metropolitan area, an appropriate list of other public officials and the President of the University sponsoring the debate. The Commission shall not favor one candidate over the other in the distribution of its allotment of tickets.

11. Dressing Rooms/Holding Rooms

(a) Each candidate shall have a dressing room available of adequate size so as to provide private seclusion for that candidate and adequate space for the staff the candidate desires to have in

this area. The two (2) dressing rooms shall be comparable in size and in quality and in proximity and access to the debate stage.

(b) An equal number of other backstage rooms will be available for other staff members of each candidate. Any rooms located next to the media center shall be located so that each campaign has equal proximity and ease of access to the media center. Each candidate's rooms shall be reasonably segregated from those designated for the other candidate. If sufficient space to accommodate the above needs is not available at a particular debate facility, the Commission shall provide trailers or alternative space mutually agreeable to the candidates' representatives at the Commission's expense. Space that is comparable in terms of size, location, and quality shall be provided to the two campaigns. These rooms shall be made available at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the beginning of each debate.

(c) The number of individuals allowed in these rooms or trailers shall be determined solely by each candidate in conjunction with the Secret Service. .

(d) The Commission shall insure that each campaign is provided with a television feeds that are on-air (as opposed to only the in-house feed from the production truck). The campaigns agree that these televisions and hook-ups are to be provided at their own expense.

12. Media

(a) Each candidate will receive not fewer than eighty (80) press passes for the Media Center during the debate and more if mutually agreed upon by the campaigns.

(b) The Commission will be responsible for all media credentialing.

13. Survey Research

The sponsor of the debates agrees that it shall not, prior to two days after the Presidential Inauguration of 2013, release publicly or to the media or otherwise make publicly available any survey research (including polls or focus group results or data) concerning the performance of the

candidates in the debate or the preferences of the individuals surveyed for either candidate.

14. Complete Agreement

This memorandum of understanding constitutes the entire agreement between the parties concerning the debates in which the campaigns will participate in 2012.


15. Amendments

(d) This Agreement will not be changed or amended except as agreed and confirmed in writing by those persons who signed this Agreement their designees.

16. Ratification and Acknowledgement

Agreed and Accepted:

By:



Printed Name:

Robert Bauer

Title:

General Counsel, Obama for America

Executed on October

3

, 2012

Agreed and Accepted:

By:

Printed Name:

Ben Ginsberg

Title:

General Counsel, Romney for President

Executed on October

_____, 2012